



Department of Justice

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FAIRFIELD RESTAURANT OWNER PLEADS GUILTY TO EMPLOYING, HOUSING ILLEGAL ALIENS

CINCINNATI – Jing Fei Jiang, the owner of Bee's Buffet restaurant in Fairfield, pled guilty in United States District Court here today to one count each of inducing, transporting and harboring an illegal alien to work in his restaurant. Jiang, age 37, also pled guilty to making a false statement on an application for a small business loan.

Each of the three counts connected with employment of an illegal alien carries a maximum sentence of 10 years imprisonment and a fine of up to \$250,000. Making a false statement on a small business loan carries a maximum possible sentence of 30 years imprisonment and a fine of up to \$1 million.

Gregory G. Lockhart, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Ohio, and Brian M. Moskowitz, special agent-in-charge of the ICE Office of Investigations in Detroit announced the plea entered today before Senior United States District Judge S. Arthur Spiegel.

According to a statement of facts filed with the plea agreement, Jiang illegally employed a number of unauthorized aliens to work in his Chinese restaurant beginning as early as October 13, 2005, and continuing until at least June 05, 2006. In addition to employing unauthorized aliens, Jiang also housed them in a residence he owned in Fairfield, and would transport the alien workers to the restaurant in a vehicle he owned.

Jiang himself has been residing in the United States without authorization since he was ordered deported more than ten years ago, although he thereafter filed an application for asylum. This application has not been granted or otherwise adjudicated.

Jiang applied for a loan from the Small Business Administration on March 28, 2005 and falsely indicated on the application that he was a U.S. citizen.

Jiang also agreed to forfeit \$100,000 in lieu of the real property formerly known as Bee's Buffet, approximately \$179,397 in cash seized from a safe in Jiang's residence, all items of value

seized from a safe deposit box Jiang rented including \$150,050 in cash, the contents of three bank accounts, and a 2004 GMC Yukon XL.

Jiang faces deportation after he serves his prison time. Senior Judge Spiegel set Jiang's sentencing hearing for April 12, 2007.

"We continue to work with all law enforcement agencies to act against those who subvert our immigration laws," Lockhart said.

ICE special agents from the Cincinnati office, assisted by the Fairfield Police Department, executed federal search warrants at Jiang's residence and place of business on June 5 and arrested Jiang. Jiang has been in custody since his arrest.

"No matter how large or how small the company, ICE has no tolerance for individuals who use illegal aliens in their workforce," said Moskowitz, special agent-in-charge of the ICE Office of Investigations in Detroit. "ICE will use all the tools within our arsenal to bring employers to justice that engage in this type of criminal activity." Moskowitz' area of operations includes the States of Michigan and Ohio.

Lockhart commended the cooperative investigation by ICE agents and Fairfield Police officers, and Assistant U.S. Attorney Anne Porter, who is prosecuting the case.

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